

## MISCELLANEOUS.

*Notice of two New Species of Colobus from Western Africa.*

By DR. J. E. GRAY.

THE British Museum some time ago received two skins from West Africa with some skins of *Colobi*: one is in a perfect state, with the skull, &c., and is doubtless a *Colobus*; the other, being a flat skin, without head, hands, or feet, can only be referred to that genus with great doubt; but if a *Colobus* or any other genus of Monkey, it is the skin of an animal that has not before occurred to me.

1. *Colobus cristatus.*

Crown of head with short reflexed hair, with two whorls on the forehead, and a narrow, linear, compressed, longitudinal crest behind; fur yellow-brown; front part of body, shoulders, and outside of fore legs greyer; throat, chest, belly, and inside of the limbs and the feet greyish white.

*Hab.* West Africa. Brit. Mus.

2. *Colobus?? chrysurus.*

Fur soft, blackish, brown-washed on the middle of the back; stripe down outside of the fore legs and along the middle of the upper side of the base of the tail, narrow at the base, but dilated at the end so as to cover the end of the tail, yellow-brown; hair on the sides of the body elongate; the sides of the throat and belly nakedish; hair of the back forming a whorl between the shoulders.

*Hab.* West Africa. Skin received with furriers' skins of *Colobi* from West Africa.

*On Purifying the Water for the purpose of Fish-hatching.*

By W. H. RANSOM, M.D.

It must have been noticed by every one who has attempted to hatch fish-spawn, that the great risk to the young fry is at the last moment, when the egg-covering should burst and the young fish escape. This spring, while hatching some spawn of Perch in a small dish, the water of which was changed daily, I lost a great number just as the young fish began to escape. The cause of the great number of deaths at that particular moment seemed to be the decomposition of those of the eggs which had not been fertilized; these making the surrounding water impure just when the embryos required most vigorously to respire. As I could not pour off the water to change it, for fear of losing the young ones, I added, night and morning, a few drops of a weak solution of permanganate of lime; this had at once the effect of sweetening the water and of supplying oxygen. I lost no more, and for many days I continued to add daily doses to the water in the dish without changing it. The young fry remained healthy, and seemed, although they could not have any food, as vigorous as were those from another batch of the same age